

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 14 and 15 are amended.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4, 7, 12, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,600,808 to Takada et al. (hereinafter "Takada"). The Office Action also rejects claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takada in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,297,254 to Arai et al. (hereinafter "Arai"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The prior art rejections in the Office Action are repeated verbatim as they appeared in the April 22, 2005 and December 14, 2004 Office Action, except as follows. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 adds language corresponding to the language added by our July 21, 2005 Amendment After Final Rejection. However, the rejection relies on the same disclosure of Takada previously relied upon prior to our Amendment.

The sections in the Office Action on pages 5 and 6, regarding the allowable subject matter, and on pages 6 and 7, regarding the response to arguments, are repeated verbatim as they appeared in the April 22, 2005 Office Action. In fact, the response to arguments section of the Office Action indicates that it is a response to Applicant's March 14, 2005 arguments. However, as acknowledged in paragraph 1 of the Office Action Summary form, with reference to the August 22, 2005 filing date of the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) that obtained entry of the July 21, 2005 Amendment After Final Rejection, the Office Action is responsive to the arguments in the July 21, 2005 Amendment.

The fourth paragraph on page 7 is added to the response to arguments section to address the subject matter added to claims 1 and 14 by the July 21 Amendment After Final Rejection.

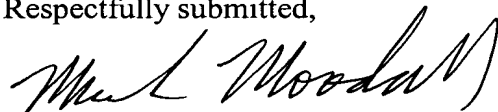
Claims 1 and 14, from which claims 2-13 and 15 depend, are amended to recite, "determining whether the measurement part program is adequate to measure the object without a collision or damage." Applicant thanks Examiner Cherry for agreeing that Takada does not disclose, teach or suggest this subject matter. Applicant also thanks Examiner Cherry for memorializing this agreement in the Interview Summary. The amendments to the claims made by this Amendment are identical to the proposed amendments to the claims discussed during the Examiner interview on December 19, 2005.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claims 1-15, be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-15 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MRW/mdw  
Date: December 29, 2005

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